

INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY Germany (Soviet Zone)

DATE DISTR 2 May 51

SUBJECT 1. Baltic Fishing Activity
2. Soviet Naval Activity in the Baltic

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1. Sassnitz: About 1,000 women have been brought from Saxony to work in the fishery. They are housed in primitive barracks nearby.
2. The large fishing luggers, Geschwister Scholler, Karl Marx, and others stationed in Sassnitz are said to fish for tuna in the North Sea. They sell their catch in Rostock and also deliver ships gear and transit goods there. According to local fishermen, great losses were incurred by the luggers on their first trips as the nets were damaged.
3. Soviet Navy:
 - a. Minesweepers (Minensuchboote): about ten are stationed in Sassnitz. They are old vessels and in poor condition with their skin plating buckled and the ribs showing. They perform minesweeping and mine laying exercises every day in the sea before Sassnitz. Discipline on board is not very rigid. The crews are lax in their dress.
 - b. M-Boats: Three former German oil-coal burners. Paravanes were observed on board, among them one extremely long one of about four meters with a kind of control different from that of the German type. These vessels are armed with three twin-barrelled AA guns of a calibre smaller than 88 mm. These three vessels and the Sassnitz luggers of the Karl Liebknecht class exercise under the direction of a vessel similar to the German fleet tender Hela. This leadship sometimes goes full speed to a position about 1,000 meters in front of the group and then travels by great arcs back to its lead position. The group was observed near the Greifswalder Oie, on a course toward Swinemuende.
 - c. Destroyer: One former German vessel without visible armament. Has been encountered several times going full speed between Sassnitz and Swinemuende. Has also been seen at anchor off the coast of Ruegen.

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- d. Minesweepers (M-Boote): There are two former German minesweepers and one with a tripod mast. A barrel-shaped gear has been observed in its masthead. It is probably a radar apparatus.
- e. M-Boats (Schnell Boote): Two with tripod masts about 65 feet tall. Torpedo tubes on each side. A longish cylinder has been attached to each of these tubes, probably for compressed air. IGs were visible on decks and the conning towers were armored. These boats were seen in Cassnitz harbor on Christmas Eve 1950 and remained only a couple of hours. The crews were dressed in new fur-lined suits and made a disciplined impression.
- f. Submarines: Two double-hulled submarines of about four or five hundred tons and with the radio direction finder located in front of the remarkably high tower, were seen in Cassnitz Harbor for three hours. The date is not given. They left on an easterly course.
- h. Peenemuende and Moeslin: The rebuilding of the former German installations is confirmed. The area is said to "glitter with aircraft".
5. Tromper Lick: The cut (54° 11' 30" N - 13° 28' 30" E) from the Lick to the harbor (near Glove) is said to be in use. Several vessels without lights have been seen entering the cut.
6. Miscellaneous: Several different kinds of destroyers have been seen off the Oderbank. West German fishermen are observed by Soviet aircraft.

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